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COUNTRY Bolivia/Argentina

DATE DISTR.

August 1948

SUBJECT

Activities of Alleged Argentine Senators in

To Paz

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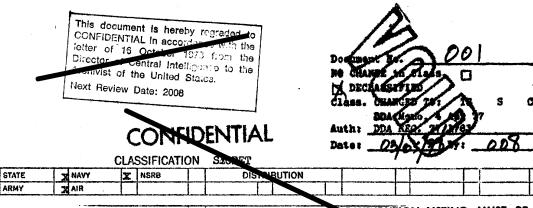
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. Aurelio Rita, Fernando Panetti, and Rodolfo Barreyro arrived in La Paz in the

- 1. Aurelio Rita, Fernando Panetti, and Rodolfo Barreyro arrived in La Paz in the early part of July on what they stated was a confidential mission for the Argentine Government. Rita and Panetti claim to be members of the Armentine Senate and Barreyro says he is the Secretary-General of the Peronista bloc. They stated that they possess diplomatic passports and that the expenses of their travel had been completely paid by the Armentine Government.
- 2. Upon their arrival in La Paz, they immediately began to spread anti-imerican propaganda. They informed several persons that, after seeing the American military personnel, Embassy and Consular officers, they felt that President Truman might just as well be sitting in the Presidential Palace in La Paz, and that, further, President Hertzog was permitting the United States Government to exploit Bolivia at the expense of the Bolivian people.
- 3. The Bolivian Minister of Finance has declared that he did not know any official reason for these individuals' being in La Paz, and he is very anxious to discover their reasons for entering Bolivia. No evidence has been found of their having made official contact with any members of the Hertzog Government.
- 4. Their contacts have been Federico Nielsen Reyes, Movimiento Macionalista Revolucionario (MNR) and Mazi sympathizer; the Spanish Minister to Bolivia; and Vicente Ordoyo. It is not known whether the contact with Ordoyo was fortuitous or had been prearranged.



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